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INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Loss of Prestige of Tito Regime in Slovenia

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. It is the opinion of a large majority of lawyers in Ljubljana that Tito is losing his last remaining supporters in Slovenia through the failure of his economic policy. These men are convinced that 80 percent of the Central Committee of the Slovenian Communist Party definitely consider the policy a failure. It is not the complete absence of consumer goods that is to blame for the change of attitude, but rather the critical food situation that has affected opinion more than anything else.
2. For the past year in Ljubljana food rations for the working population have been distributed only at irregular intervals. Currently, the situation has deteriorated to the point that when a railroad car of fats or sugar arrives in the freight yards the entire population of the city talks about it. On one occasion, the people did not have a ration of fats for a period of three weeks. In the past, these shortages affected only the working classes whose ration cards are in a low category of priority.
3. As of about 1 July 1950, holders of high priority ration cards, such as Army officers and top Party officials, have not received their full rations and have received no rations at all on several occasions. The officers claim that the lack of food is proof of the failure of the current economic policy and they see no chance of improvement without substantial aid from the West.
4. The only organization in Slovenia which remains completely loyal to the regime is the UDB. It has been entirely purged of unreliable elements and its members still receive top priority ration cards. Their continued allegiance is based mainly on the assumption that their only salvation is the preservation of the Tito regime because, in the event of capitulation, they anticipate repressive treatment either at the hands of the Cominform or the West.

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